REDWOOD COUNTY, MINNESOTA

November 4, 2025

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. in the Commissioner's Room in the Government Center, Redwood Falls, Minnesota.

Present for all or portions of the meeting were Commissioners Jim Salfer, Corey Theis, Rick Wakefield, Bob Van Hee, County Administrator Vicki Kletscher, Administrative Assistant Sierra Fluck, Assistant County Attorney Marissa Pacheco, Administrative Assistant & Ditch Technician Lali Ortega, Veteran Service Officer Roger Zollner, Environmental Director Nick Brozek, GIS Specialist Chris Burchfield, County Engineer Nick Klisch, Human Resource Director Michelle Koenig, Eagleview representative John Wenande, MnDOT representatives Kelly Brunkhorst, Tracy Schnell, Mallory Shaffer, Megan DeSchepper. Commissioner Groebner was absent.

Chair Wakefield called the meeting to order asking for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

On motion by Salfer, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve the November 4 agenda.

Chair Wakefield asked the Board Members to identify any areas in which they had a conflict of interest. There was none.

CONSENT AGENDA

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:
  - October 21st Board Minutes
  - Bills

General Fund	$	160,838.06
Building Fund	$	34,424.35
Ditch Fund	$	22,612.52
Soil & Water	$	11,664.52
EDA	$	816.17
Road & Bridge Fund	$	3,299.09
Insurance	$	230.49

- **Bills exceeding $2,000:**

Vendor Name	Amount
ELAN CORPORATE PAYMENT SYSTEMS	15,240.12
Final Total:	**15,240.12**

Vendor Name	Amount
BOOM CONCRETE INC	40,519.00
COUNTY OF RENVILLE	31,907.67
DDA HUMAN RESOURCES INC	13,000.00
DUININCK INC	23,706.35
FLEET SERVICES DIVISION-DEPT OF ADM	7,725.83
G & R CONTROLS INC	10,377.63

ISG	20,517.60
JEFFERS DRAY LINE INC	5,605.09
JESSE'S COLLISION & RESTORATION LLC	9,570.74
MARSHALL MACHINE SHOP INC	2,400.00
MORRIS ELECTRONICS INC	3,157.33
REINER/KYLE JOHN	11,664.52
SOUTHWEST GLASS CENTER, INC	8,318.00
STARK PRINTING INC DBA HENLE PRINTI	8,766.88
TKDA	4,875.00
33 Payments less than 2 0 0 0	16,514.04
Final Total:	**218,625.68**

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

- The Board recognized Lali Ortega, Administrative Assistant & Ditch Technician, for 10 years of service to Redwood County.

VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE

- On motion by Theis, second by Van Hee, in a roll call vote with Salfer, Theis, Van Hee, and Wakefield all voting aye the Board adopted the following Resolution:

  WHEREAS, the residents of Redwood County have great respect, admiration, and the utmost gratitude for all the men and women who have selflessly served our country and this community in the Armed Forces; and

  WHEREAS, the contributions and sacrifices of those who served in the Armed Forces have been vital in maintaining the freedoms and way of life enjoyed by our citizens; and

  WHEREAS, Redwood County seeks to honor individuals who have made countless sacrifices for freedom by placing themselves in harm's way for the good of all; and

  WHEREAS, veterans continue to serve our community in the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, religious groups, civil service, and by functioning as County Veterans Service Officers in 29 states to help fellow former service members access more than $52 billion in federal health, disability and

  WHEREAS, approximately 200,000 service members transition to civilian communities annually; and an estimated 20 percent increase of service members will transition to civilian life in the near future; and

  WHEREAS, studies indicate that 44-72 percent of service members experience high levels of stress during transition from military to civilian life; and

  WHEREAS, active military service members transitioning from military service are at a high risk for suicide during their first year after military service; and

  WHEREAS, the National Association of Counties encourages all counties, parishes and boroughs to recognize Operation Green Light for Veterans; and

WHEREAS, Redwood County appreciates the sacrifices of our United States military personnel and believes specific recognition should be granted;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with designation as a Green Light for Veterans County, Redwood County hereby declares November 4-11, 2025, as a time to salute and honor the service and sacrifices of those transitioning from active service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Redwood County encourages its citizens in patriotic tradition to recognize the importance of honoring all those who made immeasurable sacrifices to preserve freedom by displaying green lights in a window of their place of business or residence from November 4-11, 2025

ENVIRONMENTAL

- On motion by Wakefield, second by Theis, the Board voted unanimously to approve applying for the Great Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission Access and Inclusion Grant for $100,000 grant with up to $10,000 county match.
- On motion by Van Hee, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve contract with Eagleview for 2026 and 2029 aerial imagery flyovers in the amount of $283,903.98 to be paid with buffer funds.
- Chair Wakefield appointed Crystal Knakmuhs and Greg Hansen to the Plum Creek Park Committee.

ADMINISTRATION

- On motion by Salfer, second by Wakefield, in a roll call vote with Salfer, Theis, Van Hee, and Wakefield all vote aye the Board adopted the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, Jerry Lonneman's 4-year term as a Commissioner on the Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water System ("LPRW") Board of Commissioners is scheduled to expire at midnight on December 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Weber's 4-year term as a Commissioner on the LPRW Board of Commissioners is scheduled to expire at midnight on December 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Rod Spronk's 4-year term as a Commissioner on the LPRW Board of Commissioners is scheduled to expire at midnight on December 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Rod Spronk is not eligible to be re-appointed to another term on the LPRW Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the LPR W Board of Commissioners conducted a search to replace Rod

WHEREAS, on September 29, 2025 the LPR W Board of Commissioners passed a Motion which recommends that Scott Wassink replace Rod Spronk on the LPRW Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, on October 27, 2025 the LPRW Board of Commissioners passed a Motion which recommends that Jerry Lonneman be re-appointed to another 4 year term on the LPR W Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, on October 27, 2025 the LPRW Board of Commissioner passed a Motion which recommends that Joseph Weber be re-appointed to another 4-year term on the LPRW Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the County Board of Commissioners believe that Jerry Lonneman, Joseph Weber, and Scott Wassink are all qualified to act as Commissioners on the LPRW Board of Commissioners and are all worthy of appointment to said position.

BE IT NOW RESOLVED, that the Redwood County Board of Commissioners hereby recommends that Jerry Lonneman, Joseph Weber, and Scott Wassink be appointed to the Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water System Board of Commissioners pursuant to and provided for by Minnesota Statutes § 116A et seq. for a 4 year term which shall commence on January 1, 2026 and shall expire at midnight on December 31, 2029.

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to approve Area II MN River Basin Projects Joint Powers Agreement.
- On motion by Van Hee, second by Theis, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the County Attorney's office to increase 1.0 FTE Assistant County Attorney, effective January 1, 2026, to be funded with the termination of outside counsel contracts in the Attorney's budget.
- On motion by Wakefield, second by Theis, in a roll call vote with Salfer, Theis, Van Hee, and Wakefield all vote aye the Board adopted the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Internal Revenue Service has issued Treas. Reg. § 1.150-2 (the "Reimbursement Regulations") providing that proceeds of tax-exempt bonds used to reimburse prior expenditures will not be deemed spent unless certain requirements are met; and

WHEREAS, Redwood County, Minnesota (the "County') expects to incur certain expenditures that may be financed temporarily from sources other than bonds, and reimbursed from the proceeds of a tax-exempt bond;

WHEREAS, the County has determined to make this declaration of official intent (the "Declaration") to reimburse certain costs from proceeds of bonds in accordance with the Reimbursement Regulations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF REDWOOD COUNTY AS FOLLOWS:

1. The County proposes to undertake the improvements and repairs to various ditches (collectively, the "Project").

2. The County reasonably expects to reimburse the expenditures made for certain costs of the Project from the proceeds of bonds in the estimated maximum principal amounts as follows:

Project		**Estimated Maximum Principal Amount**
Improvements and Repairs to Judicial Ditch 5		$2,500,000
Improvements and Repairs to County Ditch 20		$2,500,000
Improvements and Repairs to Judicial Ditch 36		$250,000
Acquisition of buffers, improvements and repairs to County Ditches 18, 21, 22, 22A, 26, 33, 33 Br 5, 33 L1 Br 1, 33 L2 Br 1, 38, 49, 49 Lat A, 52 Lat 87, 54, 60, 73, 80, 81, 85, 89A, 90, and 102		$2,500,000

All reimbursed expenditures will be capital expenditures, costs of issuance of the bonds, or other expenditures eligible for reimbursement under Section 1.150-2(d)(3) of the Reimbursement Regulations.

3. This Declaration has been made not later than 60 days after payment of any original expenditure to be subject to a reimbursement allocation with respect to the proceeds of bonds, except for the following expenditures: (a) costs of issuance of bonds; (b) costs in an amount not in excess of $100,000 or 5 percent of the proceeds of an issue; or (c) "preliminary expenditures" up to an amount not in excess of 20 percent of the aggregate issue price of the issue or issues that finance or are reasonably expected by the County to finance the project for which the preliminary expenditures were incurred. The term "preliminary expenditures" includes architectural, engineering, surveying, bond issuance, and similar costs that are incurred prior to commencement of acquisition, construction or rehabilitation of a project, other than land acquisition, site preparation, and similar costs incident to commencement of construction.

4. This Declaration is an expression of the reasonable expectations of the County based on the facts and circumstances known to the County as of the date hereof. The anticipated original expenditures for the Project and the principal amount of the bonds described in paragraph 2 are consistent with the County's budgetary and financial circumstances. No sources other than proceeds of bonds to be issued by the County are, or are reasonably expected to be, reserved, allocated on a long-term basis, or otherwise set aside pursuant to the County's budget or financial policies to pay such Project expenditures.

5. This Declaration is intended to constitute a declaration of official intent for purposes of the Reimbursement Regulations.

- On motion by Salfer second by Theis, in a roll call vote with Salfer, Theis, Van Hee, and Wakefield all vote aye the Board adopted the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, while national, state, and regional electrical demand has been historically stable or declining, recent trends in electrification, economic development, and technology demand have resulted in projected increase in electrical power needs; and

WHEREAS, reliance on carbon free-based energy production continues to increase and dependence on traditional fossil fuel-based energy production continues to decrease, despite significant concern over reliable baseline and peak demand energy; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, Minnesota's Renewable Energy Standard statute was amended to include adding a carbon-free standard that requires electric utilities to provide 100% carbon-free electricity by 2040, leading the nation with such an ambitious goal; and

WHEREAS; nuclear energy is uniquely positioned to address America's energy challenges through generation of carbon-free electricity, with a record of over 70 years of safe operation and storage - all with significant federal and state oversight; and

WHEREAS, nuclear energy already generates roughly half of Minnesota's current carbon-free electricity, with nuclear plants safely operating in Minnesota for over 50 years, providing decades of carbon-free affordable electricity for families and businesses; and

WHEREAS, a new generation of advanced nuclear technology offers enhanced safety features, flexibility in siting, and a smaller footprint, making them ideal for future energy needs; and

WHEREAS, thirty-three nations have now pledged to triple nuclear power by 2050, with America leading the charge, all while Minnesota -with a world-class engineering talent and manufacturing base - is the only state with an outright moratorium on all new nuclear reactor construction; and

WHEREAS, lifting this 30-year-old moratorium is the first step in securing the affordable, clean, and reliable energy Minnesotans needs, especially as the state undertakes its energy transition to meet the 100% carbon-free electricity goals while ensuring reliable baseload power; and

WHEREAS, under the umbrella of the Minnesota Nuclear Energy Alliance (MNEA), a diverse coalition of Minnesota governments, businesses, utilities, labor unions, and environmental advocates is calling on state lawmakers to lift Minnesota's 30-year-old moratorium on new nuclear power development; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Redwood County Board of Commissioners does hereby act to join the Minnesota Nuclear Energy Alliance (MNEA) and actively support the repeal of Minnesota's moratorium on nuclear energy production to ensure safe, clean, and reliable baseload energy for all Minnesotans, especially as the State advances its 2040 goal for 100% carbon-free electricity generation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, the Redwood County Board of Commissioners urges the Minnesota Governor, State Legislature, and regulatory agencies to accelerate soonest reconsideration of the Minnesota moratorium, cognizant of advancements in available technology, increasing demand for reliable electrical power, and actions being taken by other states to located and support new nuclear power generation facilities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Redwood County Board of Commissioners respects Minnesota's Native American Community concerns regarding siting and operation of nuclear power facilities, and the safe storage of waste materials, and welcomes earnest consideration of Sherburne County for siting of such new nuclear power generation facility.

ROAD & BRIDGE

- On motion by Theis, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve the road and bridge bills in the amount of $331,346.03.

Vendor Name	Amount
BLACKSTRAP INC	16,883.32
BOLTON & MENK INC	45,025.50
CHOSEN VALLEY TESTING	12,560.00
COUNTY OF LYON - HIGHWAY DEPT	6,307.44
CRYSTEEL TRUCK EQUIPMENT INC	36,169.42
DIAMOND MOWERS LLC	2,468.05
DUININCK INC	9,772.76
ECOWATER SYSTEMS OF REDWOOD FA	5,953.00
MINNESOTA PRAIRIE LINE, INC.	16,283.34
MN DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION	6,052.34
RED ROCK QUARRY INC	77,858.93
REDWOOD BUILDING CENTER INC	4,270.92
REDWOOD COUNTY AUD-TREAS	15,604.94
SUMMIT FIRE PROTECTION	2,320.65
VALLEY EARTHWORKS INC	2,210.00
WIDSETH SMITH NOLTING & ASSOCIATE	49,883.76
ZIEGLER INC	11,463.94
27 Payments less than 2 0 0 0	10,257.72
Final Total:	**331,346.03**

- DeSchepper, District 8 Planning Director, presented the MnDOT D8 10-year CHIP plan to the Board.
- On motion by Salfer, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve purchase of a 2018 Etnyre K Chip spreader S/N: K7260 with 238 hours from Swanston Equipment for $200,000.

Personnel

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to acknowledge hiring Kevin O’Keefe as Assistant Building Maintenance Supervisor AFSCME Non-Union Salary Schedule Grade10/Step 3 $25.43, due to experience, effective November 3, 2025.

- On motion by Salfer, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Clothing Store Policy for Redwood County employees.

COMMISSIONERS

Salfer: AMC District 8, ACE, Western Mental Health, Nurse Family Partnership

Wakefield: AMC District 8, LELS Negotiations, City of Revere, Lower Sioux Hemp Crete project, Southwest Health & Human Services

Theis: Extension

Van Hee: United Community Action Partnership, Extension, Prime West

ADJOURN

- There being no further business, Chair Wakefield declared the meeting adjourned at 10:08 a.m.

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Rick Wakefield, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

Attest: ______________________________
Vicki Kletscher
County Administrator